

## Belts Anchored Forward of the Seat Back

Belts that come out of the seat cushion or from the side of the vehicle seat (**N**) may not hold your child's safety seat against the vehicle seat back. Test your child's seat by pulling it forward and sideways. If the base moves, use a different seating position unless your vehicle owner's book shows you how to make the belt system hold a child safety seat securely. A tether may help.

## A Tether Can Help Keep A Safety Seat Secure

A top tether strap (**O**) anchors the upper part of a forward-facing child safety seat when it is bolted to the frame of the vehicle. It may be the only way to keep a safety seat secure if belts are anchored forward of the seat back. A tether aids protection even when the safety seat is held firmly with the lap belt.

Some manufacturers have tether kits for their forward-facing safety seats. Do not attempt to install a tether on a safety seat not made to use one. Many vehicles have holes drilled behind the rear seat to hold a tether anchor. Some have nuts installed. Check the owner's manual for tether anchor locations.

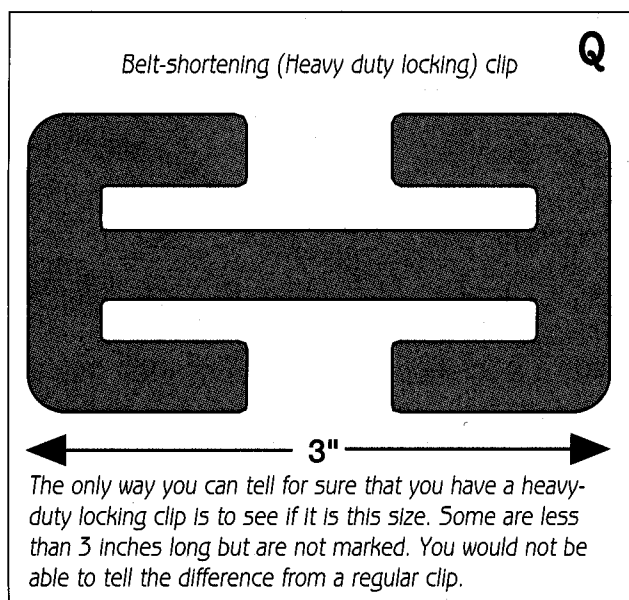
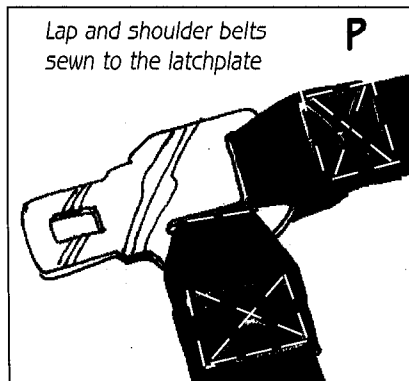
## Lap and Shoulder Belts Sewn to the Latchplate

Some belts have the lap and shoulder parts sewn separately to the latchplate (**P**). Check to see if the lap belt can be locked or "switched" to one that locks (see page 2). If not, use a special heavy-duty locking clip to shorten the lap part of the belt (see below).

## How to Shorten Lap Belts That Do Not Lock

If a lap belt or lap part of a lap/shoulder belt with a sewn-on latchplate does not lock and cannot be "switched," you can shorten the belt to make it the right length to hold your safety seat tightly.

You will need a special belt-shortening clip ("heavy-duty" locking clip, **Q**). This special clip is available **only** from Ford, Toyota, and Nissan dealers. Your vehicle owner's book may explain how to use it. (Toyota locking clips come with instructions.)



This heavy-duty clip looks just like a regular locking clip but is made from extra-strong metal. Some are a little bigger, about three inches long. If you buy a heavy-duty clip, mark it with a dab of nail polish or paint so you will know which kind it is.

**WARNING:** Use **ONLY** a heavy-duty locking clip to shorten a lap belt. Use of a regular locking clip to do this would put your child in serious danger in a crash. The regular clip could bend and release the belt, leading to possible serious injury.

Use a locking clip to shorten a belt **only** if you know that it came from Ford, Toyota, Nissan and you have instructions for using it. If you have questions about how to use locking clips or keeping child restraints tightly secured in your vehicle, call your vehicle customer service line.